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EXITS FOR AGING ATHLETES ARE RARELY GRACEFUL
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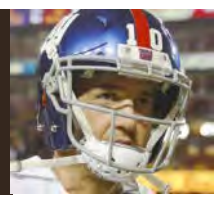

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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
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Haley Nelson/Post-Gazette photos

Lorin Shields, 24, shares a moment with his stepson, Cayden Smith, 5, in their apartment in Fineview.

When young people become victims, the violence can echo through the rest of their lives

'All we want is to make it to 18'

By Shelly Bradbury
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Lorin Shields didn't run when the man pointed a shotgun at him.

He'd seen a movie once where a black kid ran from a guy with a shotgun and the kid got hit and the blast shredded his back. So Mr. Shields didn't run.

At 18, he faced the shooter, called him by name, and said, "If you're gonna shoot me, shoot me."

The man pulled the trigger and the blast tore through Mr. Shields' arm, shattering bones from the shoulder down.

He ran.

Away from the yard in Highland Park where he'd been playing basketball and up an embankment. The shooter fired again, the blast struck his side, and he fell, tumbled down into the dirt.

He couldn't move. The shooter stood above him, shotgun raised.

Don't, Mr. Shields begged, please don't.

The man pulled the trigger, but the gun didn't fire.

"He was like, 'You're lucky I don't have no more bullets or I'd kill ya [expletive],'" Mr. Shields says, "And he uh-"

Mr. Shields' eyes glaze over. He is silent for 11 seconds.

"I'm sorry," he says, eyes snapping back to focus. "I blacked out. I don't like thinking about it, for real for real."

Mr. Shields describes how he was patched together after being shot at age 18.

SEE **VIOLENCE**, PAGE A-8

Trump flexible on corporate tax rate

House, Senate must agree on final bill

By David J. Lynch and Damian Paletta
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Hours after the pre-dawn passage of a $1.5 trillion tax cut, President Donald Trump suggested for the first time Saturday that he would consider a higher corporate rate than the one Senate Republicans had just endorsed, in remarks that could complicate sensitive negotiations to pass a final bill.

On his way to New York for three fundraisers, Mr. Trump told reporters that the corporate tax rate in the GOP plan might end up rising to 22 percent from 20 percent.

Lawmakers in both the House and Senate had fought hard to keep the corporate rate low, with the Senate late Friday rejecting a Republican-backed proposal to push it up to 21 percent in exchange for more working-family tax breaks.

The Senate passed the final version of its bill on a 51-to-49 vote just before 2 a.m. Saturday, with Sen. Bob Corker, Tenn., as the lone Republican voting against it on concerns that it would drive up the federal deficit.

Democrats howled that the bill was not released until hours before passage, with lobbyist-driven handwriting still present on the final version.

Senate Republicans moved fast,

SEE **TAX**, PAGE A-15

Issue delaying NewsSlide has been resolved

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Staff

Saturday's edition of PG NewsSlide was delayed because of issues with Microsoft's Azure connectivity, but the problem has been resolved.

The edition was published to subscribers' devices at about 10:15 p.m.

Azure is a cloud-messaging system for connecting apps and devices across public and private clouds.

Steve Hanson, president and CEO of Hanson Inc., which created the NewsSlide app platform for Block Communications, Inc., parent company of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, said the product team at Microsoft rolled back an update installed by its team that preceded the issues.

"That basically allowed everything to work" and fix the problem, Mr. Hanson said.

"There was a glitch that was not

SEE **NEWSSLIDE**, PAGE A-12

Sex misconduct putting strain on HR departments

By Daniel Moore
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Yasmin Purohit's students at Robert Morris University usually cover thorny issues through textbook definitions and cases from decades past.

But this semester, with a torrent of sexual harassment claims against powerful people making the news, Ms. Purohit and her students discussed what she said is a "watershed moment" in workforce management.

SEE **HR**, PAGE A-11

Quality time matters, and gifts are nice, too

By David M. Shribman
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Soon the holiday decorations will go up in the second-floor apartment on Lorenz Avenue in Elliott. Soon the plans will be made for the Christmas dinner: the pretzel salad that's a part of family tradition, plus ham, candied yams, green beans and, yes, macaroni and cheese. Soon the holiday expeditions will be planned, and then undertaken. But one question lingers in Melody Shank's home:

Will there be presents for Lanya?

Lanya is 12, a sixth-grader at Pittsburgh Langley K-8 on Sheraden Boulevard, and never mind that Lanya calls Ms. Shank "mom." Ms. Shank is

SEE **GIFTS**, PAGE A-14

Antonella Crescimbeni/Post-Gazette

Melody Shank with her granddaughter, Lanya, 12, in their home on Thursday in Elliott.

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